

To the Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee:

As a member of Bike Walk Connecticut, I support the Governor's proposals to develop and fund to support bike and pedestrian infrastructure in CT. I have had the opportunity to spend time in many bike friendly cities (Minneapolis, New York City, Portland, Toronto, Amsterdam, Copenhagen....). CT is way behind in establishing safe bike and pedestrian options. Although we have some beautiful segments of rail trails, they rarely connect and in many cases have very limited access by bike (that is you need to drive to use them). Bolton Notch rail trail for example. There is no legal way to access this trail by bike at the notch.

Biking infrastructure should also be connected to other forms of transit. Multimodal transit is an excellent solution to reducing gridlock on our highways. Spending \$\$ to widen highways has very limited and only short-term benefit.

If safe bike infrastructure is built people will use it! It is happening all over this country. There are so many benefits including health and reducing the number of motorists not to mention the economic benefits that communities see when safe bike trails are available.

Please support HB 6840 and bike and pedestrian funding.

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